

# The LongPath

A North Alabama DX Club Publication

## Special points of interest:

- From the President
- May Meeting Minutes
- Treasurer's Report
- DX Contests
- Huntsville Hamfest Dinner Banquet Details
- New Horse Barn

## How to Join

\* Come to a club meeting;  
 \* or send in an application by mail (form on [www.NADXC.org](http://www.NADXC.org))  
 \* or call  
 Tom Duncan at (256)705-2147

## From the President

By Mark Brown, N4BCD

Changes. The Dayton Hamvention was held last month at its new venue in Xenia Ohio. It was big, a bit chaotic on the logistics but overall a fun and successful event. The team putting it together: the Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) has already announced changes for next year to overcome the wrinkles.

The annual ARRL Field Day exercise is a few short weeks away. This event is a great way to encourage newcomers on many facets of our hobby. In a weekend hams are exposed to antenna & station building, portable operation, computer logging, contest-style exchanges, HF propagation, and likely new operating modes. But with each passing year our aging ham community finds it more difficult to maintain the high level of participation and performance. Time for some young guns to fill the gap.

Our own Huntsville Hamfest is about 2 months away and shaping up to be another stellar event. I'll make an appeal here to ask for a volunteer to assist the card checkers with administration. It's not difficult, merely logging in the groups of cards, keeping track of the groups as they're processed / paid, and handing back the completed packs to the eager DX'ers. Actually, a few guys each taking a few

hour turns would help immensely and a bonus is seeing some of the rare ones.

According to Kelley W4VPZ, our Banquet ticket sales are looking good with significant out-of-area sales. Be sure to get your ticket early before they're gone!

Julie and I have a new horse barn – almost. The shell of the 48' x 36' building was completed by a Mennonite crew in short order, leaving us to do the inside finishing this summer. One of the prerequisites to the site was more dirt which came from a hole – now our new pond. The neighbors stocked it with fish from their pond last week. See pictures on page 4. *[It would make a great multi-op station—Ed.]*

Back up your log to a memory stick or LOTW. Just a few days ago our cats overnighted in my hamshack – knocking a heavy glass tumbler of water onto my laptop. It's literally dead in the water and I'm searching for a new computer. Changes.

73,  
 Mark N4BCD  
 North Alabama DX Club - President

## AC4G DXpedition to the Marshall Islands (V73CW) 1999-2002

June Program by Bruce Smith, AC4G

When Bruce had the time, he got on the air! Hear Bruce describe his objectives, the equipment at his disposal, contesting from V7, planning for his stay, V73CW statistics. Bring your questions! Dinner around 6:00 pm, business meeting at 7:00, and Bruce's presentation no later than 7:30. See you there!



## Attendance

22 members, 0 guests in attendance

## The sign-in sheet DX worked reports were reviewed:

Mark N4BCD	K3LR 40m RC of A Party
Tom KG4CUY	TK, TT, ZD8
AI W4ABW	SZ9Z, R71RRC, 4W/ N1YC, 5Z4/DL2RMC  RSGB trophy for working 1000 IOTAs
Bob KC4TNC	Wallis & Futuna Isl. FW5JJ (LoTW)
Rob KB5EZ	2 ATNOs: RI1 Antarctica & A61Q UAE, A25UK Botswana

Stephen KK4TJP too busy learning CW at the moment

## Announcements

Tim AB4B made an announcement about the AL QSO Party coming up on June 3. The Alabama Contest Group has taken over organizing it, and there is more information available on the web site [www.alabamagsoparty.org](http://www.alabamagsoparty.org)

Chuck N4NM brought his latest gadget to share. An inexpensive (\$21 for the kit; requires soldering) handheld oscilloscope was passed around. Asked if it was a “tool” or a “toy,” Chuck replied with “yes.”

Tom KG4CUY, the Longpath editorial staff, was awarded a “Pulitzer” prize by Chuck N4NM for the April editorial column on the rare OX3 Regulator.



Gigaparts and Yaesu have agreed to underwrite an FTdx1200 as our Banquet Door Prize. Kelley W4VPZ has finalized that transaction. This marks the third year the two companies have generously underwritten this main door prize, but given that the attendance at the banquet has not grown with expectations, it may be difficult for these companies to continue this level of support in the future.

John N5DF has agreed to coordinate the remaining banquet door prize line-up, along with assistance from Steve AG4W.

Mark N4BCD thanked Tom N4KG for finding an error in his Longpath article. A 10m 0145Z spot to A25 (Botswana) should have read E51DWC (South Cook). Tom correctly pointed out that the A25 path would have been in total darkness.

HARC is in need of a 40/15m Phone station manager for the K4BFT Field Day event. See Jean (pronounced “John”) KG7NJQ if interested.

Steve AG4W had an update from the Bouvet Island DXpedition.

Jim N4KH announced that John KK5KKT is looking for help with the HARC Test Bench at the Huntsville Hamfest. Volunteers for the Huntsville Ham-

fest may sign up online now. If you don’t get a reply, fill out the online form again. The web site is still a little buggy with the sign up form.

The NADXC Tuesday night 2m net has garnered only a very small participation. We will suspend it for the summer, and consider restarting in the fall.

The Club has received a funding request for 9U4M (Burundi) November 2017. Five stations will be active for 24 hours over 11 days, 6m to 160m. Burundi is 69<sup>th</sup> most wanted (66<sup>th</sup> on Clublog). The request was from Antonio IZ8CCW. There was no comment from the members present.

The meeting adjourned and was followed by Stephen Smith KK4TJP’s program on Meager but Eager, a Case Study of DXing with Attic Antennas.

## May Treasurer’s Report By Kelley Johns, W4VPZ

Beginning Balance	\$	4,317.59
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### Debits

Banquet drawing prize	300.00
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### Credits

Dues, banquet ticket (Paypal)	51.64
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Ending Balance	\$	4,069.23
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## The LongPath Staff

### Publisher/Editor:

Tom Duncan, KG4CUY

### Departments:

Chuck Lewis, N4NM, DX Contests

Kelley Vann-Johns, W4VPZ, Minutes

Mark Brown, N4BCD, From the President

## DX Contests for June

By Chuck Lewis, N4NM

### GACW WWSA CW DX Contest, (CW), 80-10 meters

June 10, 1500Z to June 11, 1500Z

Exchange: RST, CQ zone

See page 87, June QST and

[www.wwsatest.org](http://www.wwsatest.org)

### Asia-Pacific Sprint, (SSB), 20-15 meters

June 10, 1100Z to June 10, 1300Z

Exchange: RS, Serial #

See page 87, June QST and

[www.jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt](http://www.jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt)

### Portugal Day Contest, (SSB/CW), 80-10 meters

June 10, 1200Z to June 11, 1200Z

Exchange: RS(T) and Serial or district code

See page 87, June QST, and [http://www.rep.pt/portugal\\_day\\_contest](http://www.rep.pt/portugal_day_contest)

### All Asian DX Contest (CW), 160-10M

June 17, 0000Z to June 18, 2359Z

Exchange: RST plus age; YLs send 00

See page 87, June QST and

[www.jarl.or.jp/English](http://www.jarl.or.jp/English)

### Stew Perry Topband Challenge (CW), 160 meters

June 17, 1500Z to June 18, 1500Z

Exchange: 4-character grid square

See page 87, June QST and <http://www.kkn.net/stew/>

### IARU HF World Championships (SSB/CW), 160-10M

July 8, 1200Z to July 9, 1200Z

Exchange: RS(T) plus ITU zone; IARU HQ stns send HQ abbrev.

See <http://www.arri.org/iaru-hf-championship>

### OTHERS:

Ukrainian DX Classic RTTY Contest,

1200Z, Jun 17 to 1159Z, Jun 18

His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB,

1200Z, Jun 24 to 1200Z, Jun 25

Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest

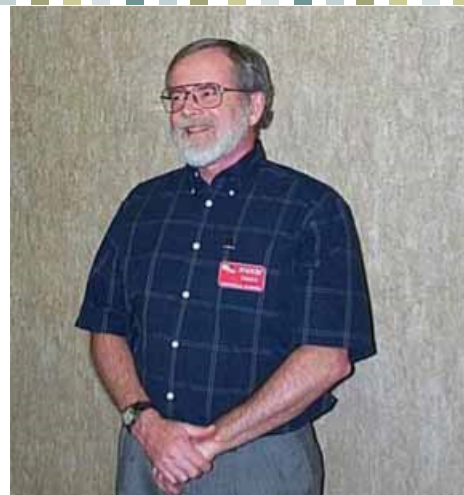
1200Z Jun 24 to 1200Z Jun 25

Marconi Memorial HF Contest (CW),

1400Z July 1 – 1400Z, July 2

Dates & times often change or are misprinted in the journals; beware.

Chuck, N4NM



## NADXC Huntsville Hamfest Dinner Banquet Details

In conjunction with the Huntsville Hamfest, the North Alabama DX Club announces the 41<sup>st</sup> annual DX Banquet. This year's guest speaker is Bob Allphin K4UEE on "A Preview of the Upcoming Bouvet Island DXpedition (3Y0Z) : The Challenges and the Adventure."

### DATE & LOCATION

Saturday night, August 19, 2017

Best Western – Madison (free parking and only 10 minutes from the von Braun Center)

9035 Madison Boulevard, Madison AL 35758

Social hour at 5:00 PM with Dinner seating at 6:00 PM.

### DETAILS

Tickets for the DX Banquet are \$38 each, available via [www.nadxc.org](http://www.nadxc.org).

A PayPal account is not needed, the secure page accepts credit card transactions.

### MENU

A full buffet, non-alcoholic beverage, and dessert.

The hotel offers a full service bar before and during the Banquet.

### SPEAKER

Bob Allphin, K4UEE. From Bob's QRZ page, we have this biographical information:

Cont'd on p. 4

### NADXC Officers and Directors

President	<b>Mark Brown, N4BCD</b>
Vice President	<b>John Stensby, N5DF</b>
Secretary/	<b>Kelley Vann-Johns, W4VPZ</b>
Treasurer	
At-large	<b>Kevin Hibbs, KG4TEI</b>
Directors	<b>Tom Duncan, KG4CUY</b>



## Hamfest Banquet Details

(cont'd from p. 3)

With the completion of the very successful K1N DXpedition to Navassa Island, K4UEE has reached a milestone in his ham radio "career". He has now participated in, led, or co-led DXpeditions to ELEVEN of the DXCC "top 10 most wanted". They are Baker/Howland (#8), Heard Island (#4), Bhutan (#3), South Sandwich Islands (#6), South Georgia Island (#10), Peter I Island (#4), Lakshadweep (#2), Desecheo Island (#6), Saba/St. Eustatius (all-time new one), Amsterdam/St. Paul (#4) and now Navassa Island (#1). In 2012, the HKØNA Malpelo Island DXpedition ranked #12 "most wanted", set a new World Record for QSOs for non-hotel, non fly-in DXpeditions.

Since retiring fifteen years ago to pursue DXpeditioning more or less full time, Bob has participated in ten MAJOR DXpeditions that have made over 1.25 million QSOs. He has ELEVEN "DXpedition of the Year" plaques hanging on his wall.

He is an active tester and has participated in 38 contest DXpeditions. From the mid- 80s through the early 2000s, Bob set five single operator/single band World Records and was a competitor in two World Radio Team Championships (WRTC) events in 1996 and 2000.

Bob is a member of the CQ DX Hall of Fame, Board of Directors of INDEXA, current President of The KP1-5 Project, and former Chairman of the ARRL DX Advisory Committee (DXAC). He is a

member of the VooDoo Contest Group, FOC (First Class Operator Club), A-1 Operators Club, the Southeastern DX Club Hall of Fame.

### DOOR PRIZES

Grand prize: a Yaesu FTdx-1200, plus many other prizes. You must be present to win.

We expect this to be a sold out event, please purchase your tickets early. If you have a group of 6 guests, just add your comments on the PalPal transaction instructions and we will reserve the entire table for your group. If you have any questions contact our Secretary/Treasurer Kelley Johns W4VPZ @ [treasurer@nadxc.org](mailto:treasurer@nadxc.org)

## N4BCD and KK4CLG's New Horse Barn

(cont'd from p. 1)



Above: Dad, 80, teaching Julie KK4CLG

Below: Backs and sides of three stalls



Above: Barn frame

Below: Barn siding

